

Message

From: Smith, John [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=F8CA6BA195244BC38B6E649F46632DFF-SMITH, JOHN]
Sent: 5/1/2019 8:50:59 PM
To: Goodis, Michael [Goodis.Michael@epa.gov]
Subject: FW: AltEn update

Importance: High

Michael – thanks for the call. This is the email I mentioned that includes R7 next steps near the bottom. We are meeting on this next Monday to review status.

John J. Smith, Acting Director
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From: Weekley, Erin
Sent: Tuesday, April 23, 2019 4:20 PM
To: Singletary, DeAndre <Singletary.DeAndre@epa.gov>; Smith, John <Smith.John@epa.gov>; Cozad, David <Cozad.David@epa.gov>
Cc: Rosado-Chaparro, Wilfredo <Rosado-Chaparro.Wilfredo@epa.gov>; Breedlove, Dan <Breedlove.Dan@epa.gov>; Muehlberger, Christopher <muehlberger.christopher@epa.gov>; Green, Jamie <Green.Jamie@epa.gov>
Subject: AltEn update
Importance: High

DeAndre, John, Dave:

We are continuing to work to better understand the situation at the AltEn ethanol plant. Given the scheduling issues today, we wanted to provide an update via email.

Background, much of this taken directly from NDA's summary:

- AltEn is an ethanol plant in Mead, NE. It uses discarded treated seed (mostly corn but also some grain sorghum) as a carbohydrate source. The resulting fermentation results in ethanol sold as a fuel additive and "wetcake" solids that are then distributed as a wetcake soil conditioner that is land applied to farm fields. The wetcake biosolids are heavily contaminated with pesticide residues.
- The plant started generating ethanol using treated seed on January 9, 2015, and accumulated the wetcake solids for three years before deciding to land apply it as a soil conditioner. Because the wetcake had been stockpiled for over three years without further conditioning, it developed an overwhelming odor that quickly resulted in citizen complaints whenever it was applied in a field near an occupied structure. Those odor complaints started in spring of 2018, shortly after the wetcake was being moved to the field and land applied. The odor complaints were received every time the company land applied more product with a significant number of complaints filed between the end of December 2018 and early March 2019. NDA became involved in the situation on January 28, 2019.

Ex. 7(A)

Ex. 7(A)

Ex. 5 DP / Ex. 7(A)

Ex. 5 DP / Ex. 7(A)

Other considerations:

- This facility employs approximately 200 people

Please let us know if we can provide additional information or a more formal briefing.

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